

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 16 | Humidity 78%

Generally cloudy sky with Light rain

Sensex 60,941

118

Gold 57,160 | Silver 74,700 | Dollar 81.39 | Euro 88.46 | GBP 100.09



CITY / PAGE 4

WHAT CITIZENS WANT

Better footpaths, roads, drainage, proper streetlighting...



CITY / PAGE 5

BEING THE CHANGE

Wasteland transformed to sprawling green patch with 14,000 trees

Annual Status of Education Report says number of schools that lack basic facilities have increased in Karnataka; for instance, 22.9% schools have no drinking water facility

A STUDY IN NEGLECT

Children in 67.6% state schools have no access to computers

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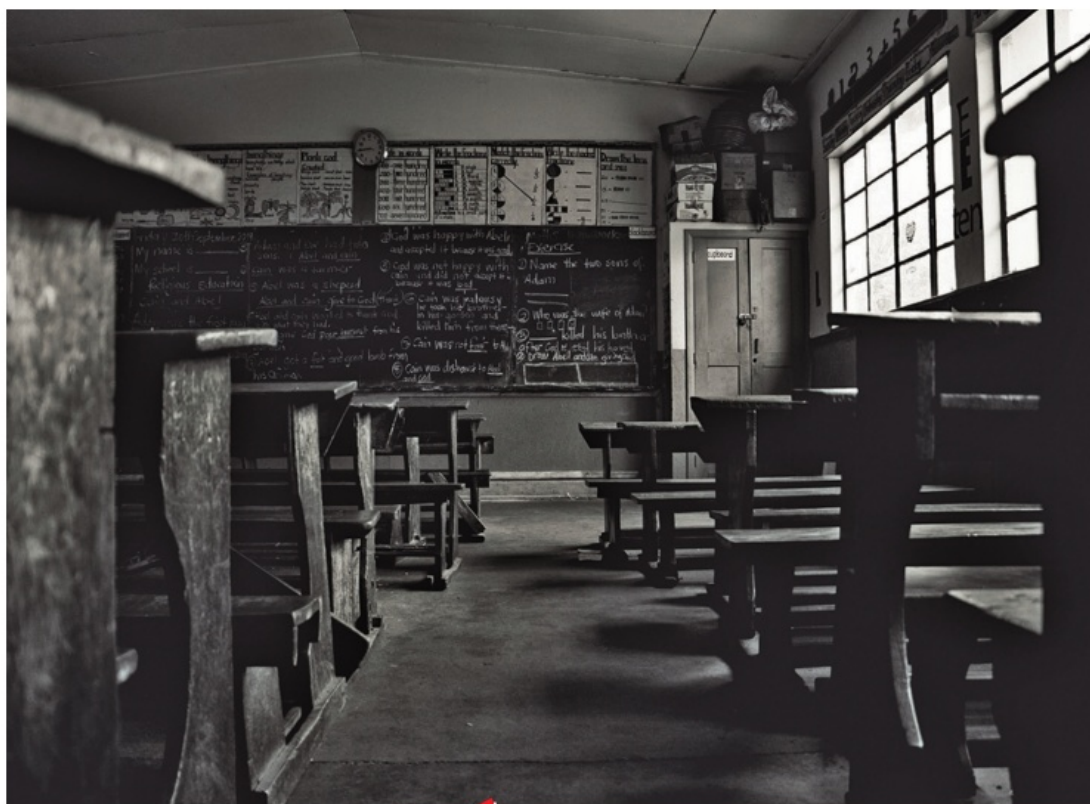
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The latest Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022 highlighted several low points in the status of the education sector in the country. According to the report, the percentage of schools in Karnataka equipped with basic facilities have declined over the years.

The ASER 2022 is a key national survey that captures the state of foundational literacy and numeracy in the country.

As per the data, the percentage of schools in Karnataka that have no toilet facility increased from about 3% in 2018 to 4.5% in 2022. Similarly, in 2018, 7.6% of schools in the state did not have a separate toilet for girls; now, 8.5% schools in Karnataka have no separate toilet facility for girls.

Moreover, the percentage of schools without computers for children was 58.2% in 2018 — this increased to 67.6 percent in the



year 2022. The number of schools with no drinking water facility also increased from 13.4% to a surprising 22.9%.

The data showed that over the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 >>



...we have almost reached a stage where even the school grant hasn't been released... there will be no funds to even buy a piece of chalk or a broomstick

— Niranjan Aradhya, public education expert

Infra in the red



Haphazard construction and demolition of urban utilities raise concern among citizens

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TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) now plans to demolish a road over bridge (RoB) at IOC Junction. A few years ago, a portion of Jayadeva Junction grade separator was also demolished. The construction cost of both these projects was more than Rs 22 crore.

Experts said that the 'art of construction and demolition' is nothing but a colossal waste of public money and it is high time the officials and political leaders are held accountable for wasting taxpayers money without proper planning and design.

As BBMP plans for construction of an elevated rotary flyover, it wants to raze down the existing RoB at IOC Junction. The Metro was forced to raze down the Jayadeva Flyover for constructing the Metro line between RV Road and Bommasandra. The Hebbal Flyover needs a modification as it is not enough to cater to the current traffic growth.

Many were demanding demolition of the cable-stayed bridge at KR Puram as it was unscientific. The Richmond Road Flyover is a classic example of poor design as it was once the only flyover in the world to have a traffic signal and since then traffic patterns have been changed multiple times.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Kathak and more

Joann's Performing Arts Company presents, RITU-Seasons of Life. Directed and choreographed by Joann Rasquinha, it brings alive the traditional repertoire of Kathak through exquisite displays, woven with intricate footwork patterns, pirouettes and graceful subtleties of the Lucknow Gharana. **Where:** CMRIT College Auditorium, Marathahalli **When:** January 28, 6:00 pm **Information:** 9845514105 **Tickets:** PayTM Insider



02 Thaikkudam Bridge, live

Thaikkudam Bridge, the popular Kerala-based multi genre music band promises to take the audience on a mesmerising musical journey with a unique slant at existing tracks along with their own compositions. The band is finally in Bengaluru, a city that has greatly contributed to Indian band music and has a fine appreciation for all genre of music. **Where:** at Nexus Koramangala Mall **When:** January 27, 6 pm **Tickets:** bookmyshow.com

03 LOL, folks

Nexus Shantiniketan Mall Bangalore has this time lined up an exclusive live performance by Amit Tandon, one of the finest talents in India's stand-up comedy genre. Famous for his observational, refreshing and contemporary humour Amit Tandon has already received wide acclamation across the country and is all set to enthrall the audience of Bengaluru this time. **Where:** Algorythm, Nexus Shantiniketan Mall, Whitefield; **When:** January 28, 7.00 PM onwards **Tickets:** bookmyshow.com



Peeved with auto driver? Scan QR code to complain

Traffic Department planning project where QR codes will be attached to every auto allowing passengers to get details about the driver and complain

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Autos in the city will soon be seen with a QR code for passengers to lodge complaints related to fare hike and misbehaviour.

Announced by MA Saleem, additional director general and special commissioner of police (traffic), he added that though the project was still in the conceptual stage, the traffic department was talking with the auto drivers' union and a software company regarding the project.

"Passengers can quickly register complaints by scanning the QR code on display cards. The initiative is still in the conceptual stage. We will be issuing QR codes to the autos and that will be printed on the auto cards. This will enable the customers to get details about the auto driver as well to anyone who scans the QR code," he said.

Traffic officials also pointed out that the auto cards tend to become outdated over time and stop providing accurate information to users. BTP will also issue the new cards to automobiles.

The card's design and other technical details are still being worked out, but it is expected to be introduced by the end of this month.

The city's auto unions are supporting the initiative but



The initiative is still in the conceptual stage

— MA Saleem, additional director general and special commissioner of police (traffic)

they are also sceptical about false complaints. "We welcome the move as we also want to provide the best services to our passengers. But we also want the traffic police to investigate the matters properly and then accordingly fine the auto drivers," said M Manjunath, President, Adarsh Auto Drivers Union.

Auto drivers complained that there is no designated zone for

State transport corporation employees' protest

Employees of various state-run transport corporations will hold a protest on Tuesday against no wage revision for the last six years. However, the corporations have sent a stern warning to the employees to not to stay away from work. The Joint Action Committee of the Trade Unions of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporations will hold a Dharni Satyagraha on Tuesday from 11 am to 5.30 pm in front of all

the divisional offices of the four road transport corporations. A KSRTC official said, "There will not be any disruption in the operation of KSRTC buses. There will be regular bus operation in the jurisdiction of KSRTC." Meanwhile, a BMTC spokesperson added, "Our main objective is to provide efficient and regular services to its commuters. In this regard, there will be no interruption of BMTC services on Tuesday."

them to wait for passengers. "We are asking for a separate space for at least five - six auto rickshaws to wait for passengers without

reducing the carriageway width. Without providing adequate parking space, we are being fined," he added.

Want revaluation of CBSE results: parents

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Anationwide association of parents has demanded revaluation of the 2021-22 batch CBSE board examinations, citing 'unfair evaluation' as the reason. The India Wide Parents Association (IWPA) sent a letter to the Education Minister of India Dharmendra Pradhan on January 20, raising concerns about the violation of the right to equality for CBSE Board Exam students in 2022.

Anubha Sahai, President of IWPA, told Bangalore Mirror, "Because of the split term board examinations in 2022, the evaluation

was done on a 30:70 basis, which means 30 percent of first term result and 70 percent of the second term was considered. Earlier it was supposed to be 50:50 but because of the use of unfair means in some states during the first term, the board changed the evaluation method."

The CBSE had conducted board examinations in two terms instead of one board examination as the academic year had been affected by the pandemic.

"However, this is unfair to the students who could not score well in the second term examination. On the contrary, some people who scored well in the second term but have not done well in the first term have scored much better than the other stu-

Due to this unfair evaluation, not every student is getting a fair chance

— Anubha Sahai, President of IWPA

dents. This, in no way, is a fair means of evaluation," she further explained. The problem was highlighted when the National Testing Agency (NTA) restored the eligibility criteria for admission in NITs and IITs, which was minimum of 75 per cent marks or the top 20 percentile in Class 12 board examinations.

"Due to this unfair evaluation, not everyone is getting an equal chance to get admission in NITs and IITs. Even if a student gets All India Rank 1 in JEE but if they have not scored well in the Class 12 examination, they will not be allowed to take admis-

sion. Every child should get a fair chance for the same," Sahai said.

The parents want a reverse ratio (70:30) be considered for evaluating the results of those students who have not performed well in the second term exams.

"There were many students who had performed well in Term 1 (and not as well in Term 2 exams). So, for performing well in Term 1, students were punished by CBSE's 30:70 deviation in the policy... The right to equality, of students who had done well in Term 1, was violated," parents wrote to Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

Man who attacked girl in college restroom arrested

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A man has been arrested for breaking into a girls' wash-room at a Bengaluru college recently. According to the police, he also assaulted and threatened a girl.

The man abused and threatened a female student and was detained on Monday, according to the police.

The accused has been identified as

Ajay Kumar, 42, a resident of Sunkenahalli. The culprit was brought before the court by Jayanagar police, and was sent to judicial custody.

The accused had broken into the Vijaya College building on January 10 and entered the women's restroom. He had attacked a girl who had come to use the restroom.

The accused further threatened the young woman warning her of consequences if she told anybody about the incident. The student later complained to the college's principal,

CRIME FILES

pal, and a police report was filed.

The cops found the accused after gathering CCTV footage from the college.

Pakistani woman arrested

Bellandur police have arrested a woman named Iqra Jeevani, 19, from Pakistan who is said to have been staying illegally in the city. Iqra, who

was married to Mulayam Singh, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, was living with her husband near Sarjapur Road. The police have arrested the duo.

Iqra from Pakistan, entered the Indian border through Nepal, and later settled down in Bengaluru with her husband. In the meantime, the Central Intelligence Agency had informed the state about Iqra, who had tried to contact her mother. Acting on the information, a special operation was conducted and Iqra and Mulayam were arrested. During the interrogation, it was revealed that

Accused said to have barged into restroom and attacked and threatened a girl

he had changed his name and applied for the passport. The police have informed the FRO officials about this. Currently, Iqra is being detained at a women's rehabilitation centre.

On the other hand, a case has also been registered against Govindar Reddy who had rented the house to the accused.

In the city of blinding lights

No. of cases of motorists using dazzling headlights has come down over the years, but its use persists



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Bengaluru recorded 467 cases of people using dazzling headlights on their vehicles, the traffic police data has revealed. The numbers have gone down significantly in 2022 as the city had recorded 727 cases in 2021 and 1,354 in 2020. However, commuters express concerns as some vehicles continue to use high beam lights in areas where there are no street lights.

Rajesh, a motorist, says that he almost got into an accident in Kengeri because the car coming towards him was using dazzling headlights.

"There are certain stretches in Kengeri where there are no street lights so commuters tend to use high beam lights. It's also the rural part of Bengaluru so many are not aware about the rules. I was going towards Kumbalagodu at night and suddenly a car with its headlights on high beam came towards me. For a while I was unable to see anything and almost lost control of my vehicle," he said.

Section 177 of the Motor Vehicles Act prohibits the use of high beam lights in the city and the fine for first-time offenders is Rs 500, whereas it is Rs 1,000 for repeat offenders.

MA Saleem, additional director general and special com-

missioner of police (traffic), says that the number of such cases have seen a significant decrease and people are using high beams only on highways where there are no street lights.

"Now not many people are using high beam lights as it is not required in the city. There is adequate lighting on city roads, but not on highways, so

If streets are well-lit, use of dazzling headlights will reduce

—MN Sreehari, traffic expert

people tend to use it on highways only. Apart from that, police personnel on traffic checks are also asked to book the vehicles that are violating the rules. Awareness has increased among people and that is the reason why there are fewer cases," he said.

Traffic expert MN Sreehari says that trees on the footpath and on roads cause light obstruction.

"People will only use high beams when there is no light on the road. This also happens when there are trees planted on footpaths and on roads so light from the street lights is unable to reach the road. The main aim is to make sure that the roads are well lit, this will automatically reduce any accidents or use of these lights," he said.

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Budget wishlist: Imagine there are no potholes...

Citizens have spoken ahead of annual budget: 16% of those surveyed want craters to be filled, 67% want footpaths, roads and drains to be prioritised

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) gears up for the annual budget for the year 2023-24, Bengalureans have pointed to poor infrastructure in the city. During a pre-budget survey across the city, footpaths, roads and drains constituted an overwhelmingly 67 per cent of the inputs. Among the top five sub-categories, 17 per cent of the respondents said that the civic agency should prioritise repairing broken footpaths, 16 per cent for filling potholes, 13 per cent for desilting road side drains, 11 per cent for repairing existing street lights and 7 per cent for providing side drains along with rain water harvesting pits.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath released the data of the 'My City My Budget' campaign. This was a city-wide annual participatory budgeting initiative to make citizens' voices an integral of the budgeting process. The campaign was launched by the BBMP in collaboration with civil society organisations, resident welfare associations and Bengaluru Ward Samiti Balaga supported by Janaagraha. According to the survey data, the respondents said that more than 1,439 km of existing roads had to be repaired by filling potholes and relaying/asphalting. This comprises 10.28 per cent of Bengaluru's total road network.

"There is an estimated need for more than 473 km of new footpaths and repairing of more than 953 km of existing footpaths. Based on citizen reported data, more than 243 km of streets need to be made safer



BBMP and Janaagraha had teamed up to collect public inputs ahead of the Budget

by providing adequate streetlights," it added.

Among the other interesting insights of Bengalureans' demand, the report suggests that investments should be made to improve the pedestrian and vehicular mobility in Bengaluru as it has emerged as the most critical theme, cutting across demographic spread.

"Lack of adequate streetlights in the city was a persistent trend across almost all zones of Bengaluru. Close to one-third of inputs from Bommanahalli and Dasarahalli emphasised the need for footpath improvement. Citizens of west, Mahadevpura, south and east had strongly recommended augmenting the solid waste management (SWM) infrastructure," said the report.

"The poor quality of roads and potholes were the complaints of residents from Yelahanka, RR Nagar and Bommanahalli. The east zone,



the most vulnerable flooding zone of Bengaluru recorded bulk of inputs related to repair or construction of road-side drains, followed closely by Mahadevpura, Dasarahalli and RR Nagar," it explained.

As BBMP is a combo of newly added areas with the earlier core zones, the demands too have seen diversification. For example, greater demand for footpath maintenance

was from inner zones, while outer zones demand for provisioning of new footpaths. This clearly shows that the inner areas were provided with footpaths for a longer time but they are poorly maintained. Another shocking trend is that contrary to the popular belief, Bengaluru is not well lit as lack of adequate streetlights was reported from almost 99 per cent wards of Bengaluru.

Danger at cluttered bus stops of ORR

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The commuters on Outer Ring Road are upset over the conditions of the bus stops in the area. According to them, the bus stops are filled with wires and fallen poles, which make it difficult for them to walk. The commuters say that walking through these bus stops is quite dangerous and if one is not careful while walking, they can get injured.

"The bus stop near Ecospace is a very busy one. It is used by a lot of people. However, it is not in a good condition at all. The cables all around it are obstructing the path of the people. People will get injured while walking through these kinds of bus stops," said Ravi Kumar, a commuter.

Another commuter told Bangalore Mirror that the bus stops at all major junctions in the area are in a terrible state. They are even filled with dust. "Even though they are used so much, no action is

being taken to fix these bus stops and help people commute in a smooth way. If the condition of the bus stands continues to be like this, people will stop using the buses, which will result in the increase of private vehicles on the road," they said.

According to Sathish K, another commuter, he has seen a lot of times that people face difficulties while getting down from the bus because of the broken footpath and cables present there.

"It is quite dangerous, especially during the evening hours when there is no light," he said.

Other commuters added that they have started avoiding the bus stands and started taking private vehicles because of the poor condition.

"I used to take the bus every day as the stop was next to my office. However, the condition of the bus stop is terrible. There are cables all over along with the broken slabs of the footpath and everyone there is in a hurry," said Arvind Ashok, another commuter. "While I was trying to get on the bus, my leg got stuck in an uneven slab and I ended up spraining my leg. After that I preferred



Wires and fallen pipes are strewn all along bus stops at major junctions on ORR

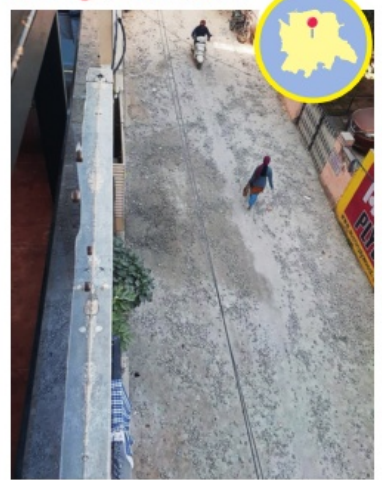
autos over buses," he added. Meanwhile, a Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) official told BM that they will try to look into the issue soon.

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Road no more

Kadugondanahalli



It's been three months since they dug up 2nd Main Road, St Thomas Town in Kadugondanahalli. It needs to be restored ASAP

Highs and lows

Outer Ring Road



This raised road without safety barricades near Nandini Layout bus stop on the Outer Ring Road is very dangerous.

Park elsewhere

Indiranagar



The footpath on 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar is being blatantly encroached upon by parked vehicles.

BMRCL's licence to hack away

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has been given a green signal to clear out 236 trees to build an elevated structure for a metro route from Tin Factory to Kempapura. The announcement was made on January 18.

Yashwant Chavan, PRO, BMRCL, said that work would begin within 15 days of the announcement. However, it would not be done in one go, he added.

Many felt that this move would turn out to be beneficial in the long run as not only it would strengthen the public transport system, but also reduce the number of private vehicles on the roads.

Ishika Dileep, a commuter, said, "I do believe that cutting down trees for development should be the last resort. However, in this case, it is unavoidable because for this phase, the metro is running along the centre of the road and the trees are dividing the road into two lanes. However, I do hope that the authorities will take good care of the plant saplings till they grow up to be big trees."

Akhilesh Kumar, another commuter, added that this move was to promote public transport. If the metro route is developed, more people will use this route which will in turn reduce the number of cars on the road. This in turn will reduce the pollution. So, in the long run, it is ultimately for the betterment of the people as well as the environment.

Some of the people also came up with the

suggestion of planting trees along the highway. Rishi Mehta, another Bengalurean, said, "The authorities can plant a number of trees in the adjoining areas or along the highway. It would not only increase the trees in the area but also beautify the road."

Another Bengalurean, however, felt that cutting down so many trees was detrimental for the environment and there must be other ways of development that would not affect the environment.

"Why is it that development is always linked with cutting trees? There should be some other way present that will not include cutting trees or harming the environment in any way. Cutting so many trees will lessen the oxygen in the area and increase pollution and it is ultimately us who will be affected with the bad air," said Ajay Shaji, a commuter.



Bengaluru's rapid development often comes at the expense of its green cover

Citizens take matters into their own hands

Sundaravana: Welcome to B'luru's urban jungle

Residents of Somasundarapalya convert gigantic wasteland into sprawling forest with 14,000 trees

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

In 2014 and 2015, there used to be a large area filled with trash near the Somasundarapalya Lake. The wasteland used to catch fire during every summer. Today, that area has now been converted into a beautiful urban forest with 14,000 trees planted by the residents of Somasundarapalya, who call it Sundaravana.

The residents planted the saplings in 2020 which have now grown up to 15 feet.

For years, the four-acre land close to the lake was used for garbage-dumping by the Karnataka Compost Development Corporation (KCDC). Heaps of trash would be dumped and as years passed by, the mountain had become seven feet in height and would also emanate a foul smell. During summer, it would also catch fire and the smoke from the fire would enter into nearby homes.

Ultimately, residents decided to come up with an action plan. The residents of Somasundarapalya along with the Community Task Force (CTF), Rotary Bengaluru HSR and residents of HSR Layout came together and approached the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to give them permission to clear the wasteland and carry out a plantation drive. The department gave them the permission and in



“We had to dig seven feet deep and we still could not see the bottom of the wasteland

—Kamesh Rastogi, Co-founder of CTF

2020, the team started to remove all the trash.

Thus, during the lockdown, from 7 am - 9.30 am, the group began clearing up the trash with the help of pourakarmikas. The members crowdfunded Rs 3 lakh for cleaning and to buy saplings. Truckloads of trash was accumulated. Once all the trash was cleared, the tree plantation drive was carried out. Every Sunday, people would come and plant the saplings.

Kamesh Rastogi, Co-founder of CTF said, "The challenge was to clear out the huge mounds of trash. We

spent every day clearing out the waste which was a very tedious job. We had to dig seven feet deep and we still couldn't see the bottom properly. We then decided to use sand, red soil and manure. After cleaning up the site, we went to different nurseries and got many flowering and fruit-bearing plants to carry out the drive. Out of the four acre, two acre was used to create the forest and the remaining two was used by the BBMP to carry out other development work."

As the work was progressing and there was a requirement to plant large number of trees, the members decided to get in touch with SayTrees NGO to carry out the Miyawaki method of tree plantation, which grows the sapling ten times faster and is denser.

Ramakanth Nargund, another member from the team, pointed out that Sundaravana is now being used as a spot to educate school and college students about plantations. "We

now have over 14,000 beautifully grown trees. Every day at 7 am, all the members come to Sundaravana and this feels like our home now. We couldn't have imagined that a wasteland could have been converted into an urban jungle, but we did it. We are now getting college students and are educating them on the different plant species and how to create green cover in the city."

There were no funds given by the local leaders for the Sundaravana. This project was entirely carried out with citizens' efforts. "We are even creating an oxygen park, where we have planted over 200 bamboo trees, which release more oxygen and are beneficial to the environment," added Lalithamba BV, another member.

After seeing the efforts made by the citizens, Bommanhalli MLA Satish Reddy visited the spot and has ensured providing grants for water management by bringing up a borewell and seating for the visitors.

Ploggers walk the walk

| Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Armed with gloves and litter bags, over 75 runners and morning walkers in the city, gathered around 60 kg of trash from litter pockets around Kaikonderahalli lake in South Bengaluru. The army said they cleaned up bags full of plastic glasses, wrappers and other dry waste items during the two-hour-long activity.

"We were taken aback by the amount of trash strewn around. The waterbody was revived by the BBMP, but management is equally important to avoid such situations," said Nagraj, locally popular as 'Plograja', founder of The Plogger's Army that conducted the plog event in association with Bhumi NGO.

Lake activists in the city say there should be stringent measures brought in.

"We have noticed many people feeding biscuits or food to kids and also to dogs in the lake area and leaving the plastic around. For a sustainable solution, BBMP needs to rope in elected members in ward offices," said Raghavendra Pachhapur, a city-based lake activist.

Experts also say a stringent punishment for individuals who are caught littering a waterbody or the area surrounding it, might just do the trick.

"Fine for littering should be strictly imposed by deploying more manpower," said Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation.



Experts say there is a need to bring change in the behaviour of people towards the environment.

"We must own up to our mistakes instead of playing the blame game with the authorities. It is a collective responsibility of citizens, elected representatives, civic authorities, and the corporations to maintain our water bodies too," added Nagraj.

(Top inset) The wasteland before it was given a makeover; volunteers plant the saplings

'Colossal waste of public money'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The MES Road Flyover is grossly inadequate (three-lane flyover constructed to accommodate traffic from six lanes).

With the aforesaid examples, the pertinent question is what are city's infrastructure projects pointing to? Reacting to this, traffic expert MN Sreehari said, "There is clearly no accountability or sanctity in BBMP or BDA. Now, we need to identify as to who had designed these multi-crore mega projects and conduct an audit as to whether the projects have served the purpose or not. We need to ask those officials who had designed the project whether they had considered the future traffic projections. When we construct an apartment or a house, we plan it for

100 years but sadly, these flyovers are not able to withstand the traffic of 10 years. This is a classic case of someone designing the flyover and someone else constructing it; but we pay the money for both construction and demolition."

Even those existing flyovers like Sirsi Circle Flyover, Sumanahalli Flyover and Peenya Flyover have seen shutdowns due to poor construction.

A civic activist said, "This means the officials are not planning for future growth. This is a classic case of how authorities take up multiple projects without coordination. If you had planned mobility in an integrated manner, today, there would have been no examples of razing down of flyovers. The colossal waste of public money is the result of no one being

held for accountability. Neither the engineer nor the contractor who constructed will pay for this but it will be the taxpayers who will pay again and again. For example, the Sivananda Flyover is a complete waste of money as it is not serving any purpose. It actually destroyed a beautiful area and made it worse without any positive impact. There should be a systematic process like holding public consultation, seeking expert opinion, feasibility study and data being uploaded on public domain. Lack of public participation leads to corruption and allegations. Public accountability comes from politicians and not officials. This is a lack of empowered governance."

According to citizen activist Srinivas Alavilli the decision to demolish the RoB is a major one. "It



requires public and expert consultation. Please take the public into confidence before taking up major projects. Learn from Sivananda and

Yeshwantpur flyovers — classic examples of poor planning, and let's not repeat it. All the projects have to be approved by BMLTA," he said.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, SYED FAYAZ AHMED RAFIQ, S/o, Syed Rafiq and Residing at No.84, 3rd 'B' Cross, Karnataka Layout, 1st Stage, Kurubarahalli, Bangalore 560086 Karnataka India, have changed my name to SYED FAYAZ AHMED vide Affidavit dated 11.01.2023 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana

I, Nikhil Natarajan R/o 1154,12th Main,2nd Stage, Indiranagar, B'luru-560008 have changed my minor Son name from Shravan to Shravan Natarajan Nikhil affidavit Dt.23/01/2023 before notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Pushpalatha R/a 10, 1st floor, Gagan Mansion, Family Encl ave, Yerappa Garden, Deshaba ndungar, VR pura B'lure-97. I have changed my name to Pushpalatha N vide affidavit dated 20-01-23 sworn before notary N Mahesha B'lure

I Azhar Pasha S/O, Abdul Khadar S R R/o #333, 9th Cross, Ilyas Nagar, Bangalore 560078 have changed my name to Azharuddin S R

I, ABHISHEK SAMPATH LAL, S/o, Sampath Lal and Residing at A502, ETA Apartments, Magadi Road, Bengaluru 560023 Karnataka India, have changed my name to ABHISHEK SAMPATH JAIN vide Affidavit dated 18.01.2023 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana

I Krishna S. residing at Flat # 308, DS Max Sunshine Apartments, Agrahara Layout Road, Thirumenahalli, Bengaluru - 560064 have changed my minor daughter's name from Aadhira to Aadhira K. for all purposes vide affidavit dated 18/1/23.

I, Basawaraj S/o Laxman R/o #37/1, Door No.102, 2nd floor, 1st main, 2nd cross, Roopena Agrahara, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to Basavaraj Talwar, affidavit Dt.23/01/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Shiv Parwat W/O Kotireddi R/o Village-Gokarnamam P.O-Nizampatnam Teh-Repalle Dist-Guntur Andhra Pradesh have changed my name to Pulugu Sivaparthi for all purposes

I Koti Reddy S/O Krishna Reddy R/o Vill-Gokarnamam, P.O-Nizampatnam Teh-Repalle Dist-Guntur Andhra Pradesh have changed my name to Pulugu Kotireddi for all purposes

I Raghunandan.V R/o No 25, 1st Main, Jaladarshini Layout, RMV 2nd Stage, Bengaluru - 94 have changed my minor son's name from Vishnu Raghunandan to Vishnu Kaundinya for all purposes.

I Abishek P Rajyaguru S/O, Prakash J R/o Jyoti Farm, Bande Road, Kogilu Layout, Bangalore North, Jakkur, Bangalore, 560064 have changed my name to Abhishek P Rajyaguru for all purposes.

I Suchithra Karthik D/O, R Ramanathan, W/O Karthik R R/o 4422 Pranava Bsr Gitaar, Near Croma, Railway Station Road, Panathur, Bangalore 560103 have changed my name to Suchithra R for all purposes

I Ramesha P S/O, Puttamallegowda R/o No 24031 Prestige Falcon City Konanakunte Cross Kanakapura Main Road Bangalore 560068 have changed my name to Ramesh P

I Vishal Rammurti Naidu S/O, Ram S Naidu R/o Rk House, hemmandahalli, sametanahalli Post, Chikkatirupathi Main Road, Bengaluru Rural, 562114, have changed my name to Vishal Ram Naidu

I Sarah Minas W/O, Sylvester Merwyn Pereira R/o C004, Mantri Splendor Hiremath Layout Kothanur Bangalore 560077 have changed my name to Sarah Ann Pereira

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Not patchwork, BBMP says flyover is flawless & ready

Complaints against 'shoddy' repair work of Manjunath Nagar flyover reaches Lokayukta, but Palike is all set to throw it open on Jan 29

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Even as allegations about poor repair work of the Manjunath Nagar flyover are flying thick and fast, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has assured that the flyover will be opened to the public on January 29. The flyover has been closed for a long time now, for the slip road work.

The BBMP undertook repair work after the Manjunath Nagar flyover near the West of Chord Road developed some gaps. The flyover built at the cost of Rs 18 crore developed gaps nearly four years after its inauguration. The 271 m bidirectional flyover has been closed for slip road work and BBMP officials claim that all issues pertaining to the flyover have been addressed.

However, allegations have been raised about the quality of work. It is alleged that at some places, wood pieces have been used to fill the gaps and it has been painted over. Nagesh N of Janata Party told BM, "The BBMP is fitting pieces of plywood pieces and using cement to cover up the cracks on the flyover. The slabs on the exterior are jutting out and a crack has formed on the flyover. The stretch is being used by hundreds of motorists." Accordingly, a complaint was filed at Lokayukta against the BBMP Chief Commissioner and BBMP Chief Engineer (Projects) for dereliction of duty in 2021. "The BBMP has patched up the flyover and given the wrong information to the Lokayukta. We are contesting this move," added Nagesh.

The flyover is part of the signal-free corridor project commissioned in 2016 under the Nagarothana project involving the state government and BBMP. Commuters could use the flyover as a signal-free corridor to get West of Chord Road and Manjunathanagar.

However, BBMP officials say that the displacement of slabs has been arrested and the flyover will be thrown to the public by January 29. A senior BBMP official told BM, "There are no cracks on the



File photo of the flyover all set for inauguration in 2018; insets: Gaps filled with wood pieces and painted over, which BBMP claims will be fixed now

“We placed the wedges to prevent the slabs from sticking. We need to cut and remove them. I have instructed the officials to remove it (before it is thrown open for use)”

—BBMP official

flyover. When the earth settled, there was some displacement of the tiles. We have taken the necessary precautions to arrest the displacement as per Bangalore University's recommendation. We are also asking IISc to conduct a further study

on steps taken.”

The IISc report about the flyover is in progress and is expected to be filed soon.

Currently, the flyover is closed to work on the slip road portion. "While conducting layered consolidation of earth, the local residents opposed compacting. While compacting, there can be a lot of vibrations and displacement took place due to improper compacting. We are fixing the issue through sand grouting and nailing methods," the official added.

When BM asked about the make-shift repair work, BBMP officials stated that wooden wedges will be removed soon. "We placed the wedges to prevent the slabs from sticking. We need to cut and remove them. I have instructed the officials to remove it," he said.

Forgotten classrooms of Karnataka

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

last few years, the number of schools that lack the most basic facilities has increased in Karnataka. Experts, meanwhile, expressed concern over the state of education and infrastructure in state schools.

"Certainly, one cannot blame the pandemic for the deterioration of infrastructure and basic facilities. The majority of government schools in Karnataka are malnourished as no money is being invested in these schools. Though RTE (Right to Education) talks about providing basic facilities as mandatory provisions, unfortunately even today after 12 years of RTE, the compliance in the state is as low as 23%," Niranjan Aradhya, an expert in public education,

told Bangalore Mirror.

"Not just in Karnataka, the compliance is low all over the country but Karnataka has it the worst. Especially if we see among the southern states, they are all doing better than Karnataka... The situation has escalated after the pandemic because we have not even announced additional funds to address this; now, we have almost reached a stage where even the school grant hasn't been released. If there is no school grant, there will be no funds to even buy a piece of chalk or a broomstick," he further explained.

The report also revealed a significant drop in children's basic reading ability and maths skills nationwide. Experts are of the view that if the situation does not improve soon, most state-

run schools might close down.

"There is nothing surprising in the report... Covid might have an additional impact on the learning dip among school children, but it is not the primary reason. The dip has been there before the pandemic. Even the minimum learning outcome has been affected; it is a serious concern for the state and the country. Even after the pandemic, when a committee recommended several measures to bridge the learning gap and enhance the quality of education, it was ignored by the education ministry. In that context, Karnataka has committed a blunder and has failed to look into issues," D Shashi Kumar, general secretary, Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka (KAMS), said.



Bollywood actor Athiya Shetty and Indian cricketer KL Rahul on Monday tied the knot in an intimate ceremony. The duo got married in presence of close family members and friends, at Athiya's actor father Suniel Shetty's farmhouse in Khandala, which is about 82 km from Mumbai.

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Army Chief reviews readiness along LAC

Gen Manoj Pande visits forward posts in Arunachal Pradesh, other strategic points to check security situation

#NEW DELHI

Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande has carried out a comprehensive review of India's military preparedness along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh in his first visit to the border state after last month's clash between Indian and Chinese forces in the Tawang sector.

Officials said Gen Pande visited various forward posts along the de-facto border with China in the Rest of Arunachal Pradesh (RALP) as well as some other strategically key posts during his visit on Sunday.

They said senior commanders in Arunachal Pradesh briefed the army chief about the overall security scenario in the border areas.

"Gen Manoj Pande #COAS visited units & formations along LAC in Eastern #ArunachalPradesh & was briefed on operational preparedness & security situation. #COAS complimented troops for maintaining sharp vigil & exhorted all to continue working with same zeal & devotion," the Army tweeted.

On Saturday, Gen Manoj Pande reviewed the Army's military preparedness along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim during his visit to the headquarters of the eastern Army command in Kolkata.

Gen Pande's visit to the crucial command came six weeks after the clash between Indian and Chinese



Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande visits units and formations along LAC in Eastern Arunachal Pradesh, on Monday

troops in an area along the LAC in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Eastern Command takes care of the LAC in the Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim sectors.

has been a fresh spike in tensions between India and China after troops from the two sides were engaged in the clash along the LAC at Yangtse in the Tawang sector on December 9.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said in Parliament on December 13

that the Chinese troops tried to "unilaterally" change the status quo in the Yangtse area but the Indian Army compelled them to retreat by its firm and resolute response.

On January 12, Gen Pande said the situation along the frontier with China is "stable" but "unpredictable" and Indian troops are adequately deployed to deal with any contingencies. He also said that there was a slight increase in the number of Chinese troops in their areas across the eastern sector. **PTI**

Rahul backs J&K statehood demand

#JAMMU

The demand for statehood is Jammu and Kashmir's biggest issue and the Congress will use "our full power" to get it reinstated, party MP Rahul Gandhi said on Monday as his Bharat Jodo Yatra arrived here to a grand welcome.

Gandhi, who met a cross section of people from Jammu and Kashmir during his yatra, said J&K has the highest level of unemployment in the country.

"The Congress party will fully support you and your statehood (demand). To reinstate statehood, the Congress will use our full power," Gandhi told a gathering at the Satwari Chowk here.

"Statehood is your biggest issue. There is no big issue as big as statehood. Your right has been snatched," he said.

Gandhi said he spoke to a cross section of people from J&K during his yatra and they raised their issues.

He said they told him that their voices are not being heard by the



Rahul Gandhi walks with his supporters, in Jammu, on Monday

administration. "The entire trade is being run by outsiders and people of J&K watch them sitting haplessly," he said.

Gandhi said Jammu and Kashmir has the highest level of unemployment in the country. Youngsters aspire to become engineers, doctors and lawyers but they find they cannot, he said.

"There was another way (to get employment) earlier. It was with the Army. It has also been closed now by a new scheme, called Agniveer, introduced by BJP. That path is also now closed," he said. **-PTI**

Sexual assault charge in WFI: Mary Kom to head panel

#JABALPUR (MADHYA PRADESH)

Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur announced on Monday that boxer Mary Kom will be heading the oversight committee formed to probe into the allegations levelled against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and its chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh and other coaches.

"Oversight Committee has been formed today. Mary Kom will head the Oversight Committee. For the coming month, the committee will investigate the allegations put up by the wrestlers," Thakur told the media in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, speaking to reporters in Kolkata, Anurag Thakur said that the Centre has heard all the players pertaining to allegations levelled against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh and added all the activities of the tournament were stopped immediately pending an inquiry by the probe committee.

"Assistant Secretary WFI was sacked and an oversight committee will begin an impartial probe so that



Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh speaks to the media (file photo)

everything gets clear," he added.

Meanwhile, the Wrestling Federation of India's (WFI) Annual General Body Meeting (AGM), which was supposed to start at 10 am on Sunday in Ayodhya, was called off amid the ongoing battle between the wrestlers and its governing body in the country.

The latest development comes after the central government on Saturday evening suspended WFI Assistant Secretary Vinod Tomar. Along with this, the activities of WFI were immediately banned till the completion of the investigation into the allegations of the wrestlers. **-ANI**

Maha guv tells PM he wants to step down

#RAJKOT

Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, who has been in the line of Opposition fire over his remarks on Chhatrapati Shivaji, on Monday said he has expressed desire before Prime minister Narendra Modi to quit the post.

The former Uttarakhand chief minister said he would like to spend the remainder of his life in reading, writing and other activities.

"During the recent visit of the



Bhagat Singh Koshyari

love and affection from the Hon'ble

Hon'ble Prime Minister to Mumbai, I have conveyed to him my desire to be discharged of all political responsibilities and to spend the remainder of my

life in reading, writing and other activities. "I have always received the

Prime Minister and I hope to receive the same in this regard," a statement from the Raj Bhavan said. PM Modi was in Mumbai on January 19 to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for several infrastructure projects. "It was an absolute honour and privilege for me to serve as the Rajya Sevak or Rajyapal of a great State like Maharashtra, the land of Saints, Social reformers and valiant fighters," Koshyari added. **-PTI**

Bombay HC allows termination of 32-week pregnancy

#MUMBAI

A woman has the right to choose whether to continue her pregnancy or not and the decision is hers and hers alone to make, the Bombay High Court said while allowing a married woman to terminate her 32-week pregnancy after the foetus was detected with severe abnormalities.

A division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and SG Dige, in its judgment of January 20, a copy of which

was made available on Monday, refused to accept the medical board's view that even though the foetus has serious abnormalities it should not be terminated as the pregnancy is almost at its fag end. The woman had approached HC seeking to terminate her pregnancy after a sonography revealed the foetus had abnormalities and that the baby would be born with physical and mental disabilities.

"Given a severe foetal abnormality, the length of the pregnancy does



Given a severe foetal abnormality, the length of the pregnancy does not matter. The petitioner has taken an informed decision

—Bombay High Court order

not matter. The petitioner has taken an informed decision. It is not an easy one. But that decision is hers, and hers alone to make. The right to choose is of the petitioner's. It is not the right of the Medical Board," the court said in its order.

Refusing termination of pregnancy only on grounds of delay would not only be condemning the foetus to a less than optimal life but would also be condemning the mother to a future that will almost certainly rob

her of every positive attribute of parenthood, the HC said. "It would be a denial of her right to dignity, and her reproductive and decisional autonomy. The mother knows today there is no possibility of having a normal healthy baby at the end of this delivery," the court said. "Accepting the Medical Board's view is not just to condemn the foetus to a substandard life but is to force on the petitioner and her husband an unhappy parenthood..." it added. **-PTI**



UNDER MY SKIN



Here's how to treat eczema and other skin conditions

Winter months bring frigid temperatures and drier conditions that can wreak havoc on the skin.

The primary role of the skin, as the largest organ in the body, is to act as a physical barrier to the external environment. When your skin is healthy, it helps protect you from allergens and infections. But in winter, when the outside temperature and humidity drop, skin can become especially irritated.

We are a dermatologist and a medical student who study a broad range of common skin conditions and the effects of the environment on skin health.

In the winter months, a handful of common dermatological conditions can develop or worsen in response to the cold. These include eczema, chilblains, Raynaud's phenomenon, cold urticaria and cold panniculitis.

All are conditions that can be uncomfortable, and some are harder to treat than others. So it's helpful to know when to manage these conditions on your own and when to see a dermatologist.

Eczema

Eczema is an inflammatory skin condition that causes dry and itchy skin and may be triggered by soaps and detergents, environmental or food allergens, hormonal changes and skin infections. There are numerous types of eczema, which often have overlapping symptoms.

Asteatotic eczema, also known

as winter itch, is common in older adults. During the winter months, skin can become drier and, in some instances, cracked, fissured and inflamed.

Severe dryness may lead to itchiness and scratching. In turn, this can create open wounds that may allow allergens and bacteria to penetrate the skin and cause a rash or an infection. This type of eczema typically occurs on the lower legs, but eruptions can occur anywhere on the skin, such as the trunk, arms and hands.

Keeping the skin hydrated is the primary treatment. Water-based lotions may worsen skin drying, so applying moisturisers with a high oil content – like petroleum jelly, mineral oil or Vaseline – on wet or damp skin is recommended. Hypoallergenic and anti-itch moisturisers designed specifically for eczema are also available.

Other tips include replacing long hot baths with quick warm showers, switching to a milder soap, and using a room humidifier if the climate is dry. If itchiness and dryness persist, seek care from a dermatologist, who may prescribe a topical steroid.

Hand eczema may also worsen in the winter as your hands are frequently exposed to cold, dry air. Scaling, fissuring and bleeding on the hands is common. Minimising exposure to hard or antibacterial soaps, along with using gentle cleansing products followed by applying a petroleum-based unscented moisturiser can improve symptoms.

Chilblains

Chilblains, also known as pernio, are small, itchy patches that can occur when the skin is exposed to cold and damp weather, resulting in swollen and painful bumps that affect the fingers, toes, ears and face.

Poor circulation, blood vessel constriction, a history of autoimmune disease and being underweight may predispose people to chilblains. Afflicted areas are painful, itchy, swollen and usually have a blueish to purple hue. In severe cases, blisters and ulcers may occur. But for most people, the condition tends to spontaneously resolve within one to three weeks.

Until that happens, it's important to keep affected areas protected from the cold. If the sensitive area starts to blister, or if fevers, muscle aches and chills develop, it's best to see a dermatologist or physician.

Pseudo-chilblains, also known as "Covid toes," can be caused by covid-19 infection. Chilblains associated with covid-19 resemble the rash in chilblains – but it is not specific to winter.

Raynaud's phenomenon

Like chilblains, Raynaud's phenomenon is a skin condition characterised by a significant constriction of blood vessels in the fingers and toes in response to cold exposure. The digits may turn red or blue, but they quickly flush red upon

rewarming. Afflicted areas may also be numb or painful, and when severe, may develop ulcers.

To treat it, it's necessary to avoid cold-weather exposure. Ideally patients with Raynaud's should dress for the cold in layers. At a minimum, make sure to wear gloves and insulated footwear.

Avoid tobacco, caffeine and decongestants; they may cause blood vessels to constrict more. If symptoms don't improve quickly – Raynaud's due to cold typically gets better after only a few minutes – see a dermatologist or your physician, as Raynaud's phenomenon can also be a manifestation of a more serious systemic disease, including cancer, infections and/or trauma.

Cold urticaria

Cold urticaria is a skin rash believed to be triggered by an autoimmune response, which leads to the release of inflammatory molecules, including histamine. Soon after the skin is exposed to sudden drops in temperature, wheals – also known as hives – may develop. These are reddish, itchy and swollen areas of skin. Such episodes can last for approximately two hours. Occasionally, other symptoms accompany the outbreak, including headache, chills, shortness of breath, abdominal pain and diarrhea.

People can test for cold urticaria using the ice cube test. This is done simply by placing an ice cube on an area of skin for five minutes; if you have cold urticaria, the skin will raise and itch within five to 15 minutes. Treatment involves avoiding cold exposure and using over-the-counter antihistamines.

For those who have cold urticaria, swimming in cold water can be dangerous, as it can lead to loss of consciousness and drowning.

Cold panniculitis

Cold panniculitis – which appears as enlarged, red and painful nodules on the skin – develops 12 to 72 hours after cold exposure.

Cases of cold panniculitis have been documented in children eating Popsicles and in adults undergoing whole-body cryotherapy, which is often used as treatment for chronic inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, or for improving post-exercise recovery.

Cold panniculitis is more common during childhood and usually resolves on its own by avoiding cold exposure and direct contact with frozen products.

Symptoms from winter skin conditions are often self-limiting and resolve on their own with adequate protection from the cold. But if symptoms do not resolve, you should see a licensed dermatologist, as cold-induced rashes may be a sign of a more concerning underlying health condition.

By Sonal Choudhary and Jeffrey Chen, University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences, The Conversation

When your skin is healthy, it helps protect you from allergens but in winter, when temperature and humidity drop, skin can become irritated

MIND, BODY & HEART



All you need to know about...

Thrush (in men)

What is it?

Thrush is a yeast infection caused by a fungus called candida albicans. Both men and women can get thrush, though it's more often associated with women.

What it looks like?

In men, it usually affects the head of the penis causing inflammation, a smelly lumpy discharge, and pain while passing urine. It can also affect the skin, causing a rash on the thighs and buttocks. In the mouth it causes white patches.

Thrush can affect other areas of skin, such as the armpits, groin and between the fingers.

This usually causes a red, itchy or painful rash that scales over with white or yellow discharge. The rash may not be so obvious on darker skin.

Sometimes thrush causes no symptoms at all.

Should I see a doctor?

If you suspect thrush for the first time see a doctor for a diagnosis because the symptoms can be similar to those of a sexually transmitted infection (STI). If you've had thrush before and you recognise the symptoms, you can treat it yourself with OTC medication.

Treating and preventing thrush

For thrush affecting your penis, ask your chemist for a tablet called fluconazole, for thrush infections in your groin or elsewhere, use a cream or ointment.

It's possible for thrush to spread during sex, but it's not a sexually transmitted infection. You can help prevent it by cleaning your penis regularly and using a condom while having sex with your partner.

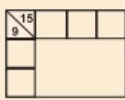
Avoid using perfumed shower gels or soaps on your genitals, as they can cause irritation. Make sure you dry your penis properly after washing.

Wearing loose-fitting cotton underwear can help prevent moisture building up under your foreskin, which lowers the chances of the candida fungus multiplying.

—Dr Miriam Stoppard, Daily Mirror

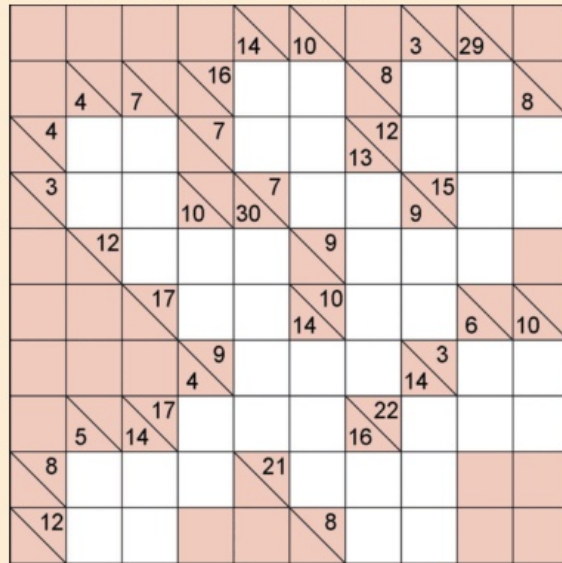
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

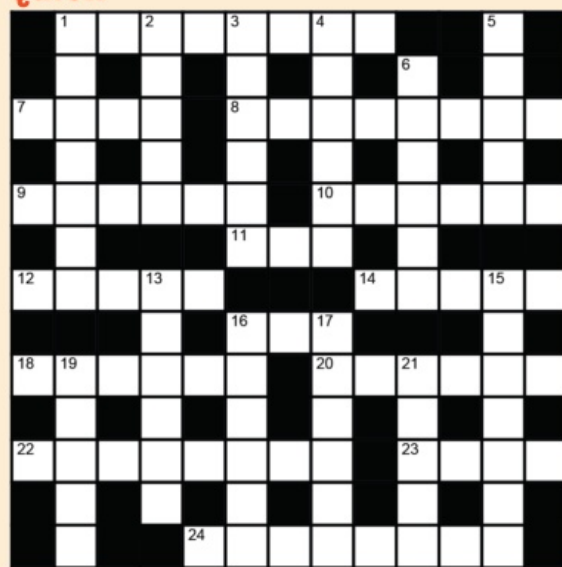


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Reconstructs (8)
- 7 Solo anagram for a capital city in Europe (4)
- 8 Domestic employee (8)
- 9 Institution for medical care (6)
- 10 Uses one's mind (6)
- 11 Balaam's beast (3)
- 12 Analyse problem etc. in psychological manner (slang usage) (5)
- 14 Clear one's throat (5)
- 16 Family doctors in short? (3)
- 18 It neutralises acid (6)
- 20 Boredom (6)
- 22 Firmly, robustly or forcefully (8)
- 23 Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike in short (4)
- 24 Persevere (4,2,2)

DOWN

- 1 Consequences, outcomes or ends (7)
- 2 Colour of dark wood or rich soil? (5)
- 3 Island home of Odysseus (6)
- 4 Questions (6)
- 5 A timepiece (5)
- 6 A sheep of Spanish breed famous for its wool (6)
- 13 Colouring stick (6)
- 15 Gastronome (7)
- 16 Silly laugh (6)
- 17 Not go to bed (4,2)
- 19 Door fastener (5)
- 21 First appearance (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: M EQUALS U
CZJ GYUOMXL PLZTO IYM JYBL
QZP FZUPJ. OCLX TLO NRJPYB
BZWL IYM Z DYYP DZBLJOLU.



Linemaro

Smoking is hazardous to your health... and baby, you're killing me!



Mindchow

Without music, life would be a mistake



Joke of the day

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese

Loop

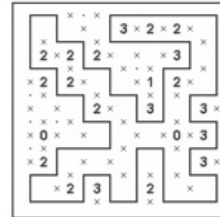
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

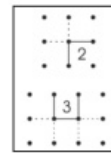
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

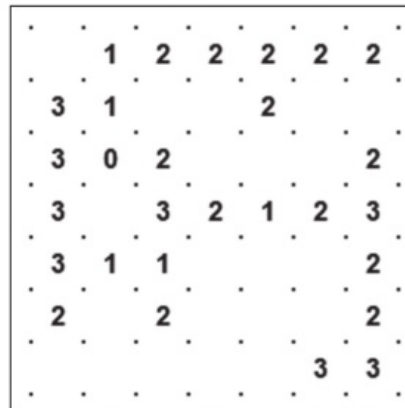
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



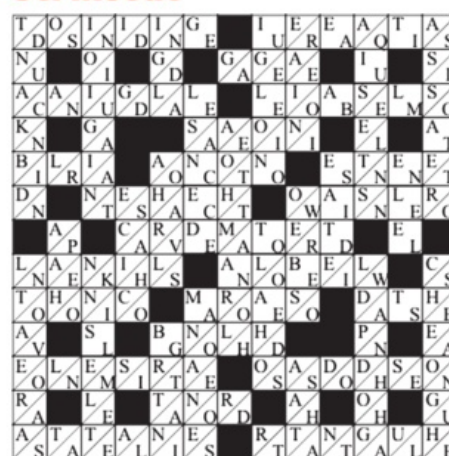
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



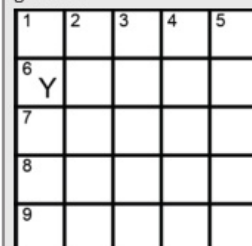
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

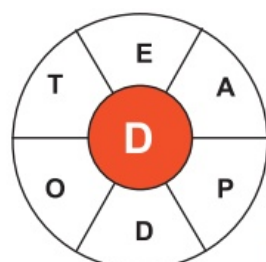
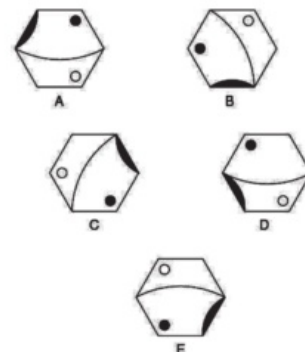
- 1 Ceres; 6 Sly me;
- 7 Sales; 8 An par;
- 9 Why do

DOWN

- 1 Sly PH; 2 Coral;
- 3 Wears; 4 Me den;
- 5 As yes

Mensapuzzle

Which is the odd one out?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

1 4 6 9 = 2

1 4 6 9 = 2

Medium

1 4 6 9 = 12

1 4 6 9 = 12

Hard

1 4 6 9 = 12

1 4 6 9 = 12

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Foot is moved. 2. Pitcher's mound is larger. 3. Opening in fence is moved. 4. Cap is turned around. 5. Arm is moved. 6. Bush is moved.

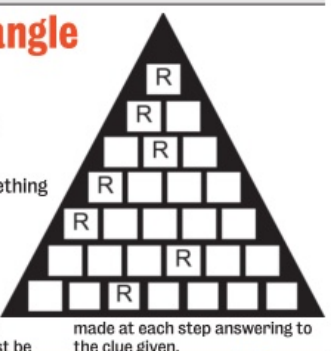
Riddler

What letter is missing from this series?
B C D G P T V Z

Alpha triangle

- 1 18th letter
- 2 In reference to
- 3 Dudgeon
- 4 Biryani ingredient
- 5 Ancient item
- 6 Clergyman
- 7 Moved round something

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

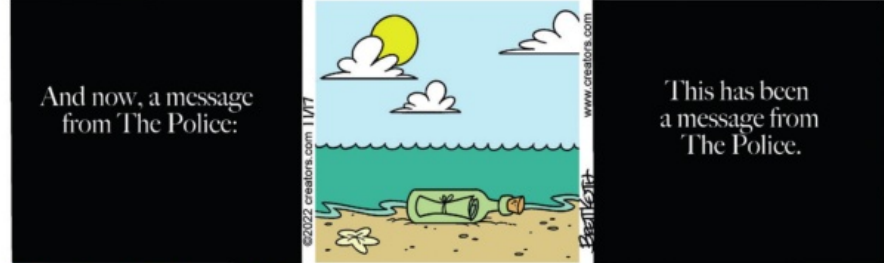
Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



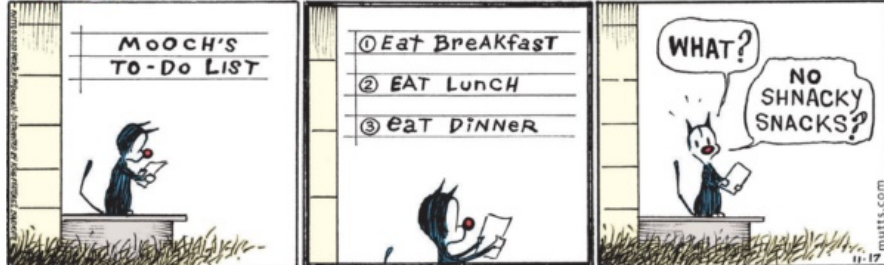
Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today you may feel dissatisfied, you may not be able to take your responsibilities. Your investments may give you some loss. You are advised to read documents carefully before putting your signature. Parent's health may make you upset. You may plan to reconstruct your office, it is advised to postpone renovation for some days.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today you may be happy and blessed by the moon; you may feel healthy, which may reflect into your way of working. You may perform well in all areas of life, which may improve your prestige. Your concentration may be very good today; you may make some difficult decisions in your business in terms of growth.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today you may feel some positive vibrations around you, which may show you the right path; with the help of peace in mind, your performance on every front may be noticeable. Your destiny is with you. You may plan to visit a religious place which is somehow far from your territory. Your inner sense may ask you to do some charity. You may also hear some good news in terms of grandchildren.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today you may plan to migrate from your current place to another place. It is advised to think twice before taking decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan to change jobs. There will be peace in the mind. But your kids' health might make you upset. It is advised to avoid speculation in the investments. Love birds shall keep patience before taking an important decision in terms of marriage.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today your vital power may slow down; your old disease may be reappeared, which may make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. You are advised to avoid any type of litigation, you may settle it out of the jury. You may also plan for an overseas tour.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today you may feel some internal weakness. Some major health issues may be reoccurred. You may not be able to enjoy it on a domestic and professional front. Running projects may stop unexpectedly, it may make you upset. You are advised to drive safely. The elder's blessing may help you to come out from the messy situation.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, it may help you to complete the project before the time line. You are likely to go on short travels, related to work. An influential person may help you to boost your network.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today you may start your day with happiness. At work, you may make quick decisions, which may increase your management skills and give benefits in the near future. You may expect some new source of income, which may boost your savings. With the help of your business partner, you may invest some amount in the business. Your bonding with the spouse may be increased, which may result in harmony in the domestic life.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today you may feel a positive vibration around you. Things are under control. You may plan to start a new business in a partnership. You may expect some long distance travel also. You will make a faith with your spouse, which will bring harmony in your domestic life.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today you may be busy with family get together and social events, you may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money in buying some artefacts or household stuff, which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today you may be busy at your office. Due to mental tiredness, you may not be able to give time to your family. With the help of elder's blessings, job seekers may get some high position in the job, managers may get promoted to top management. You may get rewards, which may increase your status. Professionally you may do better.

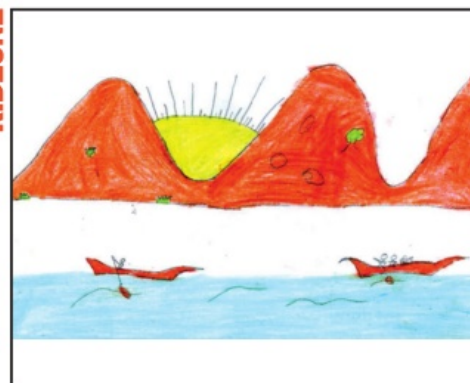


Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today is a good day for you, investors may get good gains in their investments, it may boost your financial health. Money which was stuck, may be recovered, it may increase liquidity in the business. You may become confident and have control over hidden enemies and opponents. Singles are likely to find their match in the same field or work place.



KIDZONE



Daniel Peter, 8 Years, St Patricks Academy



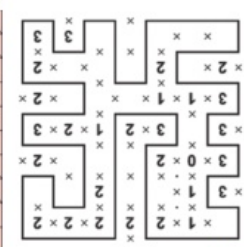
Umyra Divecha, 7 Years, Bishop Cotton Girls School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

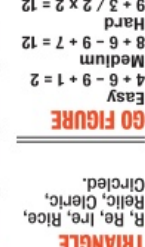
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



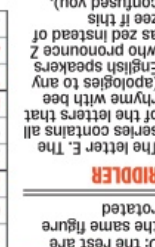
LOOP



ALPHA



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



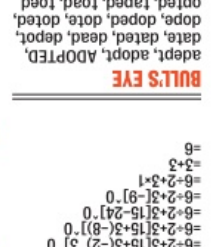
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



QUOTE UNCODE



BULLS EYE



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BIG SAVINGS

S-PRESSO ₹75 100*

WAGONR ₹58 000*

ALTO K10 ₹76 000*

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